

NOTES

HEALTHY PEOPLE 2010 GOALS:

- Increase the proportion of children with mental health problems who receive treatment.
- Better services and collaboration for children with serious emotional disturbance and their families will result in greater school retention, decreased contact with the juvenile justice system, increased stability of living arrangements and improved educational, emotional and behavioral development.

RELATED INDICATORS:

- Substance Abuse Treatment
- Special Education

Indicator

Seriously emotionally disturbed children

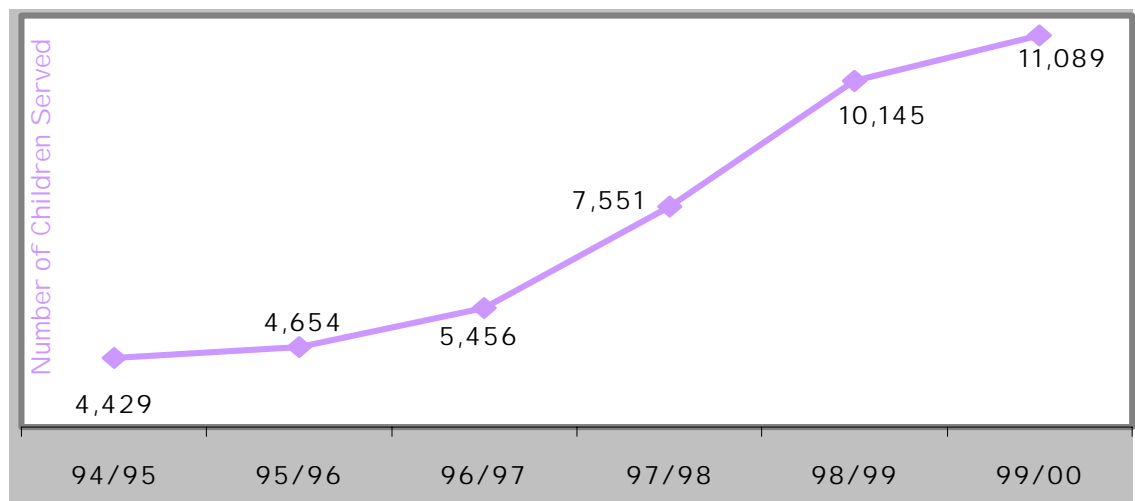
Definition

The number of children under 18 served by HCA/Behavioral Health - Children and Youth Services (CYS).

Findings

A total of 11,089 children under 18 were served by CYS in 1999/00, up from 10,145 in 1998/99. Of the total served in 1999/00, 43% were Non-Hispanic White followed by 42% of children from Hispanic descent, 6% Asian, 5% African American, .3% Native American Indian and 3% other.

Number of Children Under 18 Served by Children and Youth Services*



*Data has been updated to correct unduplicated client counts

Trends

The number of children under 18 served by CYS in Orange County has increased by 150% from 4,429 in 1994/95 to 11,089 in 1999/00. During this same six-year period, there has been a similar, continual increase from year to year in the number of clients served by CYS for all ethnic groups. With the exception of Non-Hispanic Whites which exhibited a 91% increase, all other ethnic groups had dramatic increases of over 100%: Hispanics, 240% increase; Asians, 222% increase; African Americans, 159% increase; and Native Americans, 136% increase.

MENTAL HEALTH SERVICES

Number of Clients Served by Children and Youth Services by Race and Ethnicity

RACE/ETHNICITY	94/95	95/96	96/97	97/98	98/99	99/00
Non-Hispanic White	2,514	2,519	2,937	3,682	4,638	4,800
African American	217	271	304	387	540	561
Hispanic	1,368	1,487	1,751	2,822	4,048	4,652
Asian	207	230	287	408	598	666
Native American Indian	14	16	21	22	30	33
Other/Unknown	109	131	156	230	291	377
TOTAL	4,429	4,654	5,456	7,551	10,145	11,089

Summary

Mental disorders occur across the lifespan and affect persons of all racial and ethnic groups, both sexes, and all educational and socio-economic groups. Mental and behavioral disorders and serious emotional disturbances (SEDs) in children and adolescents can lead to or co-occur with school failure, alcohol or illicit drug use, violence or suicide. As part of the Orange County Children's System of Care implementation proposal, program evaluators from California State University, Fullerton, conservatively estimated in 1998 that there are between 14,000 and 20,000 seriously emotionally and behaviorally disturbed children in the county. Current service levels indicate that while the CYS penetration rate of eligible children has increased, a number of children eligible for County services remain unidentified and unserved. Continued outreach and community education is necessary to reach this under-served population.

Implications

Children and Youth Services (CYS), the children's mental health unit of the Health Care Agency, continues to expand services due primarily to increases in State funding. Growth has been particularly concentrated in two mandated service areas: services to Special Education children referred by the schools under Chapter 26.5 of the Government Code (AB3632) and the Early and Periodic Screening, Diagnosis and Treatment program (EPSDT) for MediCal eligible children. In addition, CYS has partnered with Social Services Agency (SSA) and Probation to expand services to dependents and wards of the Juvenile Court and their families. Growth in inpatient programs is proportionate to the overall growth of the program.

NOTES



SEE
SUPPLEMENTAL
TABLES FOR
ADDITIONAL
DATA

NATIONWIDE:
While one in 10
children and
teens suffers from
an emotional or
behavioral
problem that
would benefit
from treatment,
fewer than one in
five of these
children receive
treatment in any
one year.¹

DATA SOURCE:
Orange County
Health Care
Agency/Children
and Youth
Services

NOTES:
¹The State of
America's Children
Yearbook, 2001

SUPPLEMENTAL TABLES: GOOD HEALTH

Indicator

Mental Health Services

Number of Visits by Type of Out-Patient Program

Out-Patient (Visits)	FY 94/95	FY 95/96	FY 96/97	FY 97/98	FY 98/99	FY 99/00
Special Education (Regional)	75,706	72,820	76,176	104,751	141,020	153,428
Wards & Dependents (Central)	35,859	45,968	46,572	65,790	82,588	129,512
Other (Regional)	6,043	9,899	11,486	28,530	108,180	172,223
Total	117,608	128,687	134,234	199,071	331,788	455,163

Source: Children and Youth Services.

Number of Bed Days by Type of Inpatient Placements*

Inpatient (Bed Days)	FY 94/95	FY 95/96	FY 96/97	FY 97/98	FY 98/99	FY 99/00
State Hospital	1,374	522	0	0	0	0
Acute Hospital (Short-Doyle)	811	525	744	1,064	1,033	1,107
Acute Hospital (Medi-Cal)	4,794	1,580	1,420	2,177	2,965	2,699
Residential Placement (Sp.Ed.)	14,977	23,568	18,565	26,663	23,481	22,132
Total	21,956	26,195	20,729	29,904	27,479	24,938

*As of January, 1995 responsibility for Medi-Cal inpatient services was transferred from the fee-for-service Medi-Cal sector to the Health Care Agency's Managed Care System. As a result, data for inpatient care prior to FY95/96 is skewed reflecting two independent systems.

Source: County of Orange Social Services Agency.